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C O N F I D E N T I A L DUBLIN 000921

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SUBJECT: IRELAND: ALL PARTIES SHOULD BE INVITED TO
TRANSNISTRIA CONFERENCE

REF: STATE 125824

Classified By: Political-Economic Counselor Mary E. Daly; Reasons 1.4 (B) and (D).

(C) On July 20, Post discussed reftel talking points with Conleth Brady, Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) Third Secretary for Russia, Central and Eastern Europe. According

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to Brady, Ireland supports the idea of an international conference on Transnistria, which could be a vehicle for greater EU and U.S. involvement in the conflict. Ireland, however, differs with the USG position that would welcome, but not insist on, the Moldovan Government's decision to invite Transnistrians to the conference. In Ireland's view, a resolution to the conflict depends on a fair hearing for all sides, and the GOI thus favors an EU position that would be more insistent on the Moldovan Government inviting Transnistrian representatives. Brady said that a conference without Transnistrian participation would have the appearance of a unilateral approach, which could push the Transnistrians to take an uncooperative posture. He added, more generally, that the GOI saw this year as the most opportune moment to tackle the conflict, since next year's Ukrainian elections might divert the Yuschenko Government's attention away from mediation efforts. Brady also emphasized that the GOI saw the withdrawal of Russian troops from Transnistria as integral to any resolution.

BENTON